



## Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 94**

February Session, 2002

Substitute Senate Bill No. 365

*Senate, March 21, 2002*

The Committee on Public Safety reported through SEN. PENN of the 23rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

### **AN ACT ENSURING THE SAFETY OF VACANT BUILDINGS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1       Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2002*) If a building or portion of  
2       a building has been unoccupied and any meter measuring electricity  
3       has been disconnected for a period of six months or longer, an  
4       electrician licensed pursuant to chapter 393 of the general statutes, at  
5       the expense of the owner of such building, shall inspect the electric  
6       equipment up to and including the main device to disconnect electric  
7       power to such building and shall provide written notice to the electric  
8       distribution company, as defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes,  
9       as amended, authorized to provide electric distribution services to the  
10      service area in which such building is located and the electric supplier,  
11      as defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes, as amended, of such  
12      building that such equipment is electrically safe and does not  
13      constitute a public safety hazard. Upon receipt of the written notice,  
14      the electric distribution company and the electric supplier shall  
15      promptly resume delivery of electricity to such building or portion of

16 such building.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	October 1, 2002

***Statement of Legislative Commissioners:***

The language in section 1 of the bill was restated for conciseness and consistency with the general statutes.

***PS***        *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

Currently, local building officials have the responsibility of making safety determinations on vacant buildings where electric meters have been disconnected for six or more months. The bill requires that licensed electricians make such determinations. While local officials would be free to carry out other responsibilities, there are no resulting dollar savings. It is anticipated that where state buildings are involved, state employed electricians would continue to be used.

**OLR Bill Analysis**

sSB 365

**AN ACT ENSURING THE SAFETY OF VACANT BUILDINGS****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires a licensed electrician to inspect the electric equipment, including the main power disconnect switch, in any vacant building (or part of a building) where the electric meter has been disconnected for six or more months to determine that it is electrically safe and is not a public safety hazard. It requires the electrician to give written notice of his determination to the electric supplier and the distribution company that provides electric distribution services to the service area where the building is located. The bill requires them to resume electricity delivery promptly, once notified.

The bill requires the building owner to pay for the cost of the inspection.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2002

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Safety Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 22      Nay 0